

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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SUBJ: SWISS FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZATION

1. SWISS PARLIAMENT JUNE 21 APPROVED GOVT'S REQUEST
FOR SF 735 MILLION IN FOREIGN ASSISTANCE DURING 30-
MONTH PERIOD JULY 1, 1978 TO DEC 31, 1980. ACTUAL
LOAN DISBURSEMENTS WOULD BE MADE THROUGH 1984. CURRENT
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS SF 240 MILLION OVER
14 MONTHS MAY 1, 1977 TO JUNE 30, 1978., PLUS SF 21
MILLION IN CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASIAN AND SF 37 MILLION
TO AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUNDS.

2. SWISS PUBLIC FOREIGN ASSISTANCE WAS 0.19 PCT
GNP IN 1976 WITH TOTAL SF 280.8 MILLION DISBURSED
AND ESTIMATED 0.20 PCT GNP IN 1977 WITH SF 306
MILLION DISBURSED, COMPARED TO AVERAGE 0.33 PCT
GNP FOR OECD COUNTRIES. SWISS POLICY IS TO INCREASE
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE DISBURSEMENTS BY 0.01 PCT OF
GNP PER YEAR. ESTIMATED 1978 DISBURSEMENTS 0.21 PCT
GNP WITH SF 333.4 MILLION BASED ON FORECASTED 3.8
PCT NOMINAL GNP GROWTH THIS YEAR.

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3. FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS PROJECTED ALLOCATIONS
FOR NEW SF 735 MILLION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

I. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: SF 355 MILLION
IN GRANTS AND LOANS.

A) MULTILATERAL: SF 195 MILLION. PRIMARILY
FOR ASIAN, AFRICAN INTER-AMERICAN
DEVELOPMENT FUNDS.

B) BILATERAL: SF 160 MILLION. TYPICAL
PROJECTS ARE RURAL ROADS IN AFRICA AND
SAHEL GRAIN STORAGE FACILITIES. LOAN TERMS:
15 TO 50 YEARS AT 0 TO 2.5 PCT INTEREST;
PRIMARILY FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO
APPROXIMATE GRANT CONDITIONS.

II. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS: SF 380 MILLION.

A) UN OTHER INTL ORGS: SF 125 MILLION.

B) BILATERAL: SF 255 MILLION. PARTICULARLY
FOR ANTI-DESERT PROGRAMS.

4. WE UNDERSTAND GOVT PLANS SEND THREE ADDITIONAL
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE REQUESTS TO PARLIAMENT WITHIN
NEXT 12 MONTHS. IN SEPT 1978 GOVT WILL SEEK AUTHORI-
ZATION FOR SF 240 MILLION IN FOOD AID. MESSAGE RE-
QUESTING SF 200 MILLION TO FINANCE DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS WILL BE SENT TO PARLIAMENT IN
DEC 1978. IN SPRING 1979 NEARLY SF 300 MILLION WILL
BE REQUESTED FOR CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT BANKS. IF THESE ADDITIONAL REQUESTS ARE
APPROVED, SWISS FOREIGN ASSISTANCE OUTLAYS WILL
RISE TO 0.25 PCT GNP BY 1980.

WARNER

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